

MASON'S

Coin Collectors'

HERALD

VOL. I.

MARCH, 1880.

NO. 4.

HISTORY OF THE DOUBLE DIME, &c.
From the Pennsylvania Daily Packet and Advertiser, published in Philadelphia, 1786.

Tuesday, August 29th, 1786.

By the United States in Congress assembled, August 8th, 1789.

Resolved, That the standard of the United States of America, for gold and silver coin, shall be eleven parts fine and one part alloy. That the money unit of the U. S., being by the resolve of Congress of the 6th of July, 1785, a dollar shall contain, of fine silver, three hundred and seventy-five grains and sixty-four hundredths of a grain. That the money of account to correspond with the division of coins, agreeably to the forms and manner following, viz:

MILLS, The lowest money of account, of which one thousand shall be equal to the federal dollar, or money unit,—0.001.

CENTS, The highest copper piece, of which one hundred shall be equal to the federal dollar,—0.010.

DIMES, The lowest silver coin, ten of which shall be equal to one dollar,—0.1000.

DOLLAR, The highest silver coin,—1.000.

That betwixt the dollar and the lowest copper coin, as fixed by the resolve of Congress, of the 6th of July, 1785, there shall be three silver coins and one copper coin. That the silver coins shall be as follows:

One coin containing one hundred and eighty-seven grains and eighty-two hundredths of a grain of fine silver, to be called a **HALF-DOLLAR**. One coin containing seventy-five grains and one hundred and twenty-eight thousandths of a grain of fine silver, to be called a **DOUBLE DIME**; and one coin containing thirty-seven grains and five hundred and sixty-four thousandths of a grain of fine silver, to be called a **DIME**.

That the two copper coins shall be as follows: One equal to the one-hundredth part of the federal dollar, to be called a **CENT**; and one equal to the two-hundredth part of the federal dollar, to be called a **HALF-CENT**. That two pounds and a quarter avoirdupois weight of copper, shall constitute one hundred cents.

That there shall be two gold coins: One containing two hundred and forty-six grains and two hundred and sixty-eight thousandths of a grain of fine gold,

equal to ten dollars, to be stamped with the impression of the American eagle and to be called, **AN EAGLE**; one containing one hundred and twenty-three grains and one hundred and thirty-four thousandths of a grain of fine gold, equal to five dollars, to be stamped in like manner, and to be called **A HALF-EAGLE**.

UNIQUE LINCOLN LETTER AND LINCOLN DOCUMENT.
A Bill to Compensate Slave-Owners, in Lincoln's Handwriting.

DURING the week following President Lincoln's assassination a clerk in the Executive Mansion, who had been entrusted with the arrangement of the private papers of the deceased, came into the possession of a rough draft of a bill in the President's handwriting and with his signature. It relates to the compensation for the emancipation of slaves, and discloses Mr. Lincoln's sentiments on the subject, clearing up many doubts which have arisen in the minds of the public. The letter and document are as follows:

FELLOW-CITIZENS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: Herewith is the draft of a bill to compensate any State which may abolish slavery within its limits, the passage of which, substantially as presented, I respectfully and earnestly recommend.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

JULY 14, 1862.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, That whenever the President of the United States shall be satisfied that any State shall have lawfully abolished slavery within and throughout such State, either immediately or gradually, it shall be the duty of the President, assisted by the Secretary of the Treasury, to prepare and deliver to such State an amount of six per cent. interest-bearing bonds of the United States equal to the aggregate value, at—dollars per head, of all the slaves within such State, as reported by the census of the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty. The whole amount for any one State to be delivered at once, if the abolishment be immediate, or in equal annual instalments, if it be gradual. Interest to begin running on each bond at the time of its delivery, and not before.

And be it further enacted, That if any State having so received any such bonds shall at any time afterwards, by law, reintroduce or tolerate slavery within its limits, contrary to the act of abolishment upon which such bonds shall have been received, said bonds so received by said State shall at once be null and void, in whosoever hands they may be, and such State shall refund

to the United States all interest which may have been paid on such bonds.

[The above papers are for sale, with affidavit and guarantee to the purchaser as to the ownership and genuineness. Price, \$200. Address this office.—Ed].

OUR N. & A. SOCIETY.

THE Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia, held its regular meeting at its hall, Vice President, Daniel G. Brinton, in the chair. Letters from distinguished gentlemen were read accepting election to membership, and thanking the Society for the same. A large number of valuable donations were made to the cabinet and library. The orator of the evening, Mr. Philip Howard Law, read an essay on "Servitude in England," upon which an animated discussion arose, which was participated in by the Society in general.

Dr. Albert S. Gatschet, of the Bureau of Ethnology, contributed a paper on a late discovery in Moscow of a remarkable goblet of the seventeenth century workmanship, fabricated out of old coins put together. It was presented on last Christmas to the Emperor of Germany.

Mr. Henry Phillips, Jr., read a communication in reference to a late find of over 1,000 Scottish coins of the reign of Robert III.

Mr. Isaac Meyer, who was appointed a committee to ascertain the exact date of the landing of William Penn at Philadelphia, reported that he had definitely ascertained the exact day, and read a valuable essay on the subject, stating that he would read a fuller one at another time.

Many objects of interest were exhibited, among which were a small metallic head-rest, such as were used in ancient coffins, likewise a gilt ring, on which was a fire-altar, surmounted by a star and bearing characters not unlike the Sassanian coinages and various other antiques found near Tunis. Some remarkable American coins were shown, including an 1804 quarter dollar *perfectly uncirculated*, and proofs of the half dimes of 1794, 1795, and 1796.

A number of beautifully-engraved gems were exhibited lately, consigned to a prominent firm in this city, by Signor Alessandro Castellani. Among them were:—1. Bust of Minerva, in yellow agate; 2. Nymph, in agate; 3. Pegasus, oriental garnet; 4. Chimera, sard; 7. Victory, cornelian; 8. Apollo, sard; and others.

The Hystographer announced the death of James Lenox, February 17, aged eighty, and Samuel Greene Arnold, February 13, aged sixty. Mr. Arnold was at one time Honorary Vice-President of the society for the State of Rhode Island.

Mr. Chandler called the attention of the Society to the alleged discovery of prehistoric tools and work-ings, in a coal mine in this State.

After election of members the meeting adjourned.

WOODEN MONEY.

FROM the reign of Henry I. down to the period of the establishment of the Bank of England, a portion of the money of England was fabricated out of wood. This instrument was called an "exchange tally," and by virtue of it the holder was entitled to receive from the Crown the value inscribed thereon. It really consisted of one half of a four-sided rod or staff, on which, when in its entire state, the sum it purported to represent was carved in transverse notches, varying in width for thousands, hundreds, scores, pounds, shillings, and pence. These signs were for the unlearned. For the advantage of those who could read, the sum was written in ink on two opposite sides of the staff; and finally, with a knife and mallet the staff itself was split in two longitudinally. One-half—called the "tally," or "cheek"—was given to the person for whose service it was intended; the other half—called the "counter-tally"—was laid up in safe-keeping until its corresponding tally should be brought in by the person who had last given value for it. Its intrinsic value was, of course, only that of the wood of which it was composed; but by representation it denoted large sums. It was a current token of real money, and served actually to distribute from man to man by this exchange.

AUTOGRAPHS.

Whether there is character in the handwriting or not, it is easy for the collector to fancy he can trace it there. The yellow piece of paper, the faded lines, seem to place you mystically en rapport with the people whom you have not seen and can never see, but who have moved you and moulded you more than the living men and women of to-day. The letters of the dead, too, however slight, have more of their personality than the original MSS. of their books retain. When reading a letter written by George Washington, or Abraham Lincoln, the feeling is akin to seeing and conversing with these departed heroes. Collectors appreciate this sentiment and enjoy their hobby accordingly.

ANCIENT MONEY AND MODERN COINING.

Two lectures on money were recently delivered before the members of the Franklin Institute, of this city, by Mr. A. E. Outerbridge, Jr., of the United States Mint, which were illustrated in a novel manner. By means of a newly perfected apparatus, called a megascope, magnified images of rare gold and silver coins—many of them more than 2000 years old—were projected upon a screen, with the lustre and relief of the specimens themselves. Portraits of Alexander the Great, Ptolemy Philadelphus and other ancient heroes, together with the Silver Denarius or "Penny" of the New Testament, the widow's mite, and "proof pieces" of our own mint, were strikingly exhibited in this way.

EDITORIAL EXCURSIONS.—No. 4.

OUR Winter Excursions on numismatic business have been confined to New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland. Visits to Camden and Trenton and vicinity have been frequent and although but few collectors are found there of the advanced class, yet considerable interest is manifested in the forming of the common coins, such as foreign and U. S. silver and copper pieces. In the country towns of Pennsylvania, however, the interest grows apace, and each inconsiderable village has its coin dealer with a fair share of patrons. Reading, Lancaster, Coatesville, West Chester, Harrisburg and Pittsburg are well-known numismatic centres, and a busy trade is carried on in old coins, while some of the places named boast of their "Coin Auction Sales" and their numismatic publications. Some large cabinets of coins, etc., are found in these cities and towns vieing with the larger cities in quality, quantity and condition. We visited Hatboro, Jenkintown, Doylestown, Norristown, Phoenixville, Pottsville, and a few intermediate villages, exhibiting our possessions and purchasing some very desirable coins. We simply refer to these visits to show the advance of the coin trade which is permeating every city and town in the U. S. and ere many years will result in the establishment of a numismatic trade that will rank with other solid pursuits. In Coatesville, a few enthusiastic collectors are about organizing a numismatic society, and this too in a village of perhaps two thousand inhabitants. We were lucky in obtaining at Reading, this State, a very fine 1802 half-dollar, which was secured by Dr. E. Maris, of this city. It was near Reading where we obtained the bright and beautiful "uncirculated" quarter dollar of 1804, (now in Mr. Jenks' cabinet, this city,) and the identical piece exhibited and admired at the last meeting of the Numismatic Society as described in another article in this issue. Our next excursion will embrace New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Maine (our birth-place), after after which we anticipate the pleasure of a fifth trip to Europe.

ISSUE OF U. S. COINAGE, 1879.

Double Eagles,	207,630
Eagles,	384,770
Half Eagles,	301,950
Three Dollar Pieces,	3,030
Quarter Eagles,	88,990
Gold Dollars,	3,030
Silver Dollars (Trade),	1,541
" (Bland),	13,807,100
" Halves,	5,900
" Quarters,	14,700
" Dimes	15,100
Five Cent Nickel,	29,100
Three " "	41,200
One Cent Bronze,	16,231,200

A WASHINGTON SNUFF-BOX TURNS UP.

Dr. W. W. Hibben, of Emporia, Kan., has just come into possession of an old French snuff-box that was presented to George Washington by Lafayette in this city, in August, 1777. The presentation was made at the first meeting of the two men of beloved memory. The box particularly delighted Washington, for it contained then and still contains a correct likeness of Lafayette as he appeared when a young man. After the death of Washington, General Israel Putnam became the owner of the box. Before Putnam's death he enclosed the relic in a chimney-piece in Cambridge and there it remained 100 years.

PRICED AND UNPRICED CATALOGUES.

We have for sale, or exchange a large number of Coin Sale Catalogues, embracing about twenty years (1860 to 1880) among the lot are three bound volumes 1878 and 1879, containing all the Sale Catalogues priced. The unpriced catalogues range from ten cents to fifty cents each; the priced ones from 25 cents to \$1.00. The 3 volumes bound, \$5.00 each.

RARE WASHINGTON TOKEN.

R. C. Davis, of this city, has exhibited to us a Washington "Mule" piece of great rarity. *Obverse*, same as the Washington cents, large and small eagle, of 1791; *Reverse*, a ship, surrounded with the legend, "Liverpool Half-Penny."

WANTED, AT THIS OFFICE.

An 1838 Half Dollar New Orleans Mint. Good trade in rare coins, or handsome cash price paid.

BALLAD OF BLUE CHINA.

There's a joy without canker or cark;
There's a pleasure eternally new;
'Tis to gaze on the glaze and the mark
Of china that's old and that's blue;
Who'd have thought they would come to us who,
That o'er loot of an empire would hang
A veil of Morrisian hue,
In the reign of the Emperor Hwang?

These dragons—the tails, you remark,
In bunches of lotus flowers grew—
When Noah came out of the Ark
Did these lie in wait for his crew?
They snorted, they snapped, and they blew;
They were mighty of fin and of fang,
And their portraits the Celestials drew
In the reign of the Emperor Hwang.

Here's a pot with a house in a park—
In a park where the peach-blossoms blew—
Where the lovers eloped in the dark,
Lived, died, and were turned into dew,
Bright birds that eternally flew
Through the bows of the May as they sang;
'Tis a tale was undoubtedly true
In the reign of the Emperor Hwang.

Mason's Coin Collectors' Herald.

PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1879.

E. MASON, JR., - - - EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

QUARTERLY.

TERMS:—\$1.00 per Annum in Advance.

NUMISMATIC PROGRESS.

CLOSING the first volume of the HERALD occasion is presented to review the Coin trade during the past twelve months. In forming the U. S. Series of coinage, preference has been lately given by collectors to the silver issues, and our copper-faced friends have been neglected for a time, to give place to their more valued neighbors, whose whiteness and brightness make their presence attractive in a numismatists' cabinet. The next step forward has been the increasing desire among collectors to gather and complete the varieties of U. S. gold coinage. This class of coin has taken an upward tendency, in fictitious value, during the past year, and it is a noticeable fact that within a short period of time an 1815 Half-Eagle has been sold at a public auction in New York City for the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars! The "yellow boys" are not all so valuable, yet this appreciation in value, as instanced by the 1815 gold piece, is one of the signs of the times. A short time back a dealer was glad to obtain ten per cent. over par value of the gold coinage, with few exceptions of early rarities.

New varieties of old coinage, and extraordinary "Uniques" are turning up. In another portion of our paper we allude to various of these latter "finds." At the commencement of the HERALD we illustrated the extraordinary discovery we made in turning up a silver "Confederate States Half-Dollar" of 1861, and in closing our first volume we make public three "unique" pieces, viz:—Colonial Silver Shilling, 1665, The Starred Cent of 1794, The 14 Star Half-Dollar of 1787. If the latter proves a forgery it is a very old one, and deserves mention as showing the early efforts made to counterfeit the first issues of U. S. silver, and showing also that dies were made for the purpose.

New varieties of the silver coinage of the U. S. are constantly turning up. In addition to the 1866 Half-Dollar of San Francisco Mint without label and motto, we would state that a collector of this city has a silver Dollar and Half-Dollar of 1866, Philadelphia Mint, without label or motto, and we have examined both pieces. This fact has never been published. Also we would publish to the world that there are 1838, U. S. Half-Dollars of Orleans Mint, worth their weight in gold, however. Scott states in his *Coin Collectors' Journal* that the "Dimes and Half-Dimes of 1837 and

1838 are doubtless all from Orleans Mint." We have all the dates and denominations of these pieces from the Philadelphia Mint.

Coin dealers are all doing a flourishing business; as the recent fall in coins of the scarcer sort, and the break in "corners," has afforded collectors rare opportunities for securing some desirable coins. The silver 1852 Half-Dollars, which were "cornered" to the height so to speak, of twelve dollars for fine specimens, can now be had in very fine condition for six to eight dollars. 1836 "Reeded edge" Half-Dollars once sold as high as ten dollars, can now be had for five to six dollars, in very fine to uncirculated condition. There is no sense in paying exorbitant prices for coins in the face of the repetition of coin sales and the occasional "finds" thrown on the market, to say nothing of other sources of supply. Fair prices are now prevailing for the ordinary coins and medals in the market, and for the extraordinary gems that occasionally come to the surface, collectors must expect to pay unfair or extraordinary prices. On the whole the past year's business in coin gathering and coin dealing, has been satisfactory with few exceptions, as noted above, and we congratulate the fraternity, at home and abroad, on the future bright prospects for an increased trade in our hobby.

NEW WRINKLES IN 1880.

Mr. W. Thatcher, of this city, has exhibited to us a most remarkable Half-Dollar, resembling in bust, eagle, legends and wreath the U. S. Half-Dollar of 1794; but differing in stars and date. Obverse to the right, six stars, left of the bust, eight stars—date 1787! Reverse precisely like the ordinary 1794 Half-Dollars. We pronounce the coin an undoubted counterfeit; although, by its worn appearance, it may have been made fifty years ago.

HIS SIGN.

A dealer in curiosities and coins, on Seventeenth street, in this city, has in his show window a frame of U. S. silver coins, to which is attached a show card bearing the following inscription:—

ALL STATES OF DOLLAR AND HALF-DOLLARS
FOR
BIRTHS, MARRIDGES, AND SILVER WEDDINGS.

Parties desiring to secure U. S. Dollars of 1804 to 1835 inclusive, and Half-Dollars of 1804 and 1816, to commemorate the happiest events in their lives—their marriages, and their births,—will please take notice.

COLONIAL COIN OF 1665.

W. E. Woodward has in his possession a unique silver coin, size of a U. S. Quarter-Dollar of the present period. Obverse N. E.—COL.—M— around a blank centre field; Reverse in three lines "XII—PENCE—1665." What is it? Who knows?

ISSUE AND RARITY OF U. S. GOLD COINS.
Struck from 1795 to 1880 inclusive. Prepared from U. S. Mint Cabinet.

BY E. M., JR.

1795 \$10, \$5, scarce.	1815 5, very rare.
1796 10, 5, 2½, rare.	1816 and '17, no gold coined.
1797 10, 5, 2½, "	1818 5, scarce.
1798 10, 5, 2½, scarce.	1819 5, "
1799 10, 5, common.	1820 5, "
1800 10, 5, "	1821 5, 2½, rare.
1801 1c, scarce.	1822 5, "
1802 5, 2½, common.	1823 5, "
1803 1c, 5, "	1824 5, 2½, "
1804 10, 5, 2½, "	1825 5, 2½, "
1805 5, 2½, "	1826 5, 2½, "
1806 5, 2½, "	1827 5, 2½, "
1807 5, 2½, common.	1828 5, very rare.
1808 5, 2½, "	1829 to '37, 5, 2½, scarce.
1809 5, "	1838 to '48, 10, 5, 2½, common.
1810 5, "	1849 10, 5, 2½, 1, "
1811 5, "	1850 to '53, 20, 10 5, 2½, 1.*
1812 5, "	1854 to '80, 20, 10, 5, 3, 2½, 1.*
1813 5, "	
1814 5, "	

(* All common.)

WASHINGTON MEDELET.

We have a small medal—obverse, bust of Washington, surrounded by stars; reverse, in centre, a label with "G. Washington" in script letters; above it "Natus, 1732," below label, "Obit., 1799." Struck in gold, size of a gold dollar. Can our readers give its history? It is for sale, good condition.

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION

OF THE NUMBER AND CONDITION OF THE SILVER AND COPPER COLONIAL AND UNITED STATES COINS IN THE UNITED STATES MINT CABINET AT PHILA., DEC.

BY E. M., JR.

(Continued from December Number.)

U. S. HALF DOLLARS.

CONDITION, ETC.

1794 (Two) Both good.	1829 Very fine.
1795 Very fine.	1830 Uncirculated.
1796 Very fair.	1832 Proof.
1797 Good.	1833 Very fine.
1801 Uncirculated.	1834 (Two) Proof, uncd.
1802 Fine.	1835 Proof.
1803 "	1836 (R. E.) Proof!
1805 (Over 4) Fine.	1837 Uncirculated.
1806 Uncirculated.	1838 ("O." Mint), uncd.
1807 (Three) "	1838 ("P." Mint), "
1808 "	1839 (O. and P. Mints), uncd.
1809 "	1840-48 inclusive, Proofs.
1810 "	1849 Very fine.
1811 Fine.	1850 Fine.
1812 Uncirculated.	1851 Uncirculated.
1813 "	1852 (P. Mint), uncd.
1814 "	1853 (Bays) uncd.
1815 Reverse* uncd.	1854 Proof.
1816 None coined.	1855 (O. Mint) uncd.
1817 Uncirculated	1856-1879, inclusive (all the varieties), Proofs.
1818 to 1820 inc. uncd.	

*Those marked *Reverse* signify that the reverse side is visible only.

To be continued.

NUMISMATIC PUBLICATIONS.

The Boston *Journal of Numismatics* is at hand, and contains a large amount of numismatic matter and handsome plate of photo-illustrations. The Boston *Journal* seems to have had a "little light" upon the Confederate States half dollar of 1861, for in the October number the editor in alluding to the Confederate half dollar writes "the existence of which seems to be tolerably well authenticated." Now, we breathe easier! A few more skeptics yet to be heard from; and one or two foreign journalists who expressed many misgivings as to "Mason's New Confederate Coin." Come forward, gentlemen, and register your apologies: your forgiveness is assured.

Steigerwalt's *Quarterly Coin Journal*, for January is at hand, presenting an interesting paper on the "U. S. Cents." Friend S. makes as good a paper as its limited size will allow of.

Frossard's *Numisma* for January received, freighted with its usual supply of good things. Bro. Frossard follows the example of the Boston Numismatic Journal, by "taking water" on the subject of the Confederate State half dollar of 1861. We see by an article in the November number that he treats the "new comer" in a more reasonable manner, and has evidently concluded that the C. S. A. coin is "genuine". Next!

George B. DeRevere (happy cognomen!) sends us a November number, of *The Collectors' News*, all the way from Plainfield, N. J. The *News* announces its object to treat upon Coins, Autographs, Stamps, etc., but fails to print a line on anything but stamps. George B. DeR. must do better in next issue.

LUCKY COMMITTEE MEN.

The House Committee on Coinage, at Washington, has agreed to a resolution requesting the Director of the Mints to strike 100 of the gold "Stella" pieces, 100 of the "Silver Metrie" dollars, 100 "Goloid" dollars, for the use of the Committee. To each member of the Committee (to whom we send this issue of the HERALD) we make the following liberal offer if the bill passes, viz:—To pay ten dollars each for specimens of the above "patterns." The pieces can be sent C. O. D. charges added, to the address of this office.

FOR SALE.

We have at this office on sale a full set U. S. silver half dollars (including all the known varieties) in fine to uncirculated condition. Full particulars concerning number, variety and exact condition will be given, with price, on receipt of stamp.

TO OLD AND NEW COLLECTORS.

Please send your address for first number of second volume of COIN COLLECTOR'S HERALD AND PRICE LIST.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

L. M., Utica, N. Y.—We do not remember to have seen the fact published. There is an 1838 half-dollar "Orleans Mint," but it is very rare. The Mint Cabinet has a fine specimen on public view.

J. L. R., Coatesville.—The dime of 1811, *over date*; that is over 1810, is rare, and you are lucky to possess a specimen.

W. S. A., Boston.—Every coin advertised in this number is on hand and for sale; and we will send any piece C. O. D. with "privilege of examination" to any party paying charges if not purchased.

L. H., Chicago.—We can duplicate any coin (with few exceptions) in Parmelee's collection; having a collection on hand and for sale (in lots, or single pieces) unequalled for variety in the U. S. We have all the dollars but one, all the halves, all the quarters but two, all the dimes, half-dimes, etc., also Colonial, each variety of the 1792's (copper and silver), medals, store cards, ancient and modern foreign coins, &c., &c.

A. C. L., Hartford.—We sold the celebrated "Jefferson Head" cent 1795 some years ago to the late A. S. Robinson for \$90. It had a queer history. Bought by us for one dollar and a half in 1868, sold to Randall for \$10, sold by Mr. R. at auction to Mr. Haseltine for \$145.00 thence to Mr. Few Smith for about the same amount; thence transferred to us in 1872, with the above result. Now owned by a large manufacturer in Massachusetts and valued at \$300.00. We have had three specimens, all poor—besides the latter which is the finest known of the "Jefferson Head" variety.

W., Portsmouth, O.—We do not announce coin sales, unless inserted by those interested, as advertisements. Will send you any catalogue you desire, of coming sales, and execute any bids for the usual commission.

W. R. B. Waverly—Presidents' auto's range from 25 cents to \$3.00. Send list.

S. O. W., Boston.—Since writing about the "starred variety 1794 cent, we learn of a duplicate in this city, but rather poor reverse.

R. P. Deersville.—Boston Post 50 cents. Do not deal in the books you name. Have you any coins for sale?

COLOMA, CAL., February 11th, 1880.

Dear Sir:—I was pleased to learn that the "1796 LIBERTY Cent" was genuine. In Scott's Standard Coin Catalogue, and in the Coinages of the World, (by Mathews), that variety of Cent is not mentioned, hence my inquiry. Why was the "H" used instead of a "B"? You might mention about this coin in your Journal; I would like to learn more of it.

Yours respectfully, J. P. S.

[ANS.—The variety of the 1796 U. S. Cent having the word LIBERTY misspelled LIBERTY is well known to all intelligent numismatists. A Coin Catalogue

can hardly deserve the title of "Standard" if it omits this important variety of the U. S. Cents. You will find the coin alluded to properly described in *Mason's Coin Collectors' Magazine*, published 1867 to 1872, inclusive, in this city. The substitution of "H" for "B" was an error of the engraver; such errors were of frequent occurrence in the coinage of the U. S.]

NEW HAVEN, CT., December 9th, 1879.

Dear Sir:—Enclosed please find P. O. Order for \$1 for which send me the COIN COLLECTORS' HERALD for this year. I expect to get several subscriptions, and will send you a list of names soon. I have been so busy I could not do justice to the paper at present.

Since writing you, two gents have called on me to send in their subscriptions for the HERALD, which please send as follows: Gus. Hendricks, Ralph Beers. I have taken subscriptions for several coin papers and all of them (the papers) wilted down before they were fully ripe, and it is up hill business to get any one to take hold again.

To show you that I am not selfish, I will state that I only receive an even dollar for the paper, and pay the postage and Money Order out of my own pocket, and I will send all I can get to help an old friend start again. Yours truly, L. J. PARSONS.

TOWANDA, PA., December 20, 1879.

Dear Sir:—I am in receipt of No. 2 of your COIN COLLECTORS' HERALD, for which accept my thanks. It seems like "ye olden times" to see you again in the coin business and the publisher of a Coin Collectors' Magazine, and trust that you will meet with success in your new enterprise. Enclosed please find \$1.00 for one year's subscription. I should like to commence with No. 1. Yours truly, RODNEY A. MERCUR.

WOBBURN, MASS., December 29, 1879.

Dear Sir:—Enclosed please find my check for one dollar, the same being pay for a year's subscription to the HERALD, to begin with No. 1. I believe I was an early subscriber to the defunct Magazine, continuing to be due to its death and now wish to be found upon the list at its (I hope to be permanent) resurrection.

Truly yours, M. LITTLEFIELD.

OVER DATES OF U. S. CENTS.

The following embrace over dates of cents as far as we have been able to collect them at the present time. We would thank our readers for any additional information concerning this matter.

1798	over	1797—2 varieties.
1799	"	1798.
1800	"	1799—2 varieties.
1807	"	1806.
1810	"	1809—2 varieties.
1811	"	1810.
1820	"	1819.
1823	"	1822.
1824	"	1822.
* 1839	"	1830.

*This variety, we believe, a slip of engraver's tool, or an error corrected.

1879 Halves, Quarters and Dimes

FOR SALE.

U. S. Silver Half Dollars (uncirculated),	\$1 10
" " Quarter " "	40
" " Dimes, " "	25
Complete Set of Three Pieces, \$1.00.	

MASON & CO., 143 N. Tenth Street, Phila., Pa.

1880 PROOF SETS, &c.

Full Set 1880 (8 Pieces),	\$4 75
Small Sets 1880 (3 Pieces),	20
Trade Dollar, 1870, Proof,	2 00
Trade Dollar, 1880, Proof,	1 50

MASON & CO., 143 N. Tenth Street, Phila., Pa.

MASON & CO.'S

Fifth European Excursion,

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MASON & CO'S

March Price List.

COINS ON HAND AND FOR SALE.

143 N. Tenth Street, Philada.

1794 Dollar, fair,	\$35 00
1794 Half Dollar, fair,	5 00
1794 " " good,	7 00
1836 Dollar, proof,	10 00
1838 " " "	50
1839 " " "	35 00
1851 " good,	20 00
1851 " fine,	30 00
1852 " proof,	50 00

1856 Proof-set,	
1858 " Dollar,	
1796 Half Dollar, fine,	
1797 " " fair,	
1801 " " fair,	
1802 " " good,	
1815 " " fair,	
1815 " " good,	
1815 " " fine,	
1815 " " uncirculated,	
1836 " " Reeded, fine,	
1836 " " uncirculated,	
1836 " " fair,	
1851 " " uncirculated,	
1851 " " very fine,	
1851 " " fine,	
1851 " " good,	

50 00	1852 Half Dollar, uncirculated,	7 00
42 50	1852 " " very fine,	6 50
70 00	1852 " " fine,	5 00
32 50	1852 " " fair,	3 00
4 00	1796 Quarter Dollar, good,	3 00
5 50	1796 " " fair,	2 00
3 50	1796 " " poor,	2 00
5 00	1804 " " good,	2 00
6 50	1804 " " fair,	1 00
8 50	1815 " " fine,	1 50
4 00	1815 " " good,	75
5 50	1815 " " fair,	50
2 50	1853 " " no arrows, fine,	8 00
1 75	1853 " " " good,	6 00
1 25	1853 " " " fair,	4 00
1 00	1853 " " " poor,	2 50

(Continued on next page.)

PRICE LIST OF COINS.—Continued.

1796 Dime, good	\$3 00	1825-'46 inclusive, <i>fin</i> , each	1 50	Cal. gold, $\frac{1}{4}$ Dollars,	50
1796 " fair,	2 00	1847-'49 inclusive, uncirculated, each	75	" $\frac{1}{2}$ "	75
1796 " poor,	1 50	1847-'49 very fine,	1 00	" "	1 50
1797 " fair,	3 50	1850-'56 uncirculated,	25	Bactrian coins, fine,	25
1798 " good,	5 00	1793 Half Cents,	1 00 to 5 00	African Link Money,	1 50
1798 " fair,	3 00	1794 " "	25 c. to 1 00	William Crowns,	2 00
1800 " poor,	3 50	1795 " "	50 c. to 1 50	Coventry Pennies,	50
1804 " poor,	3 25	1796 " "	10 00 to 40 00	North Wales, no date,	2 00
1805 " good,	1 50	1797 " "	25 c. to 1 00	North Wales, 1796,	2 00
1807 " "	1 25	1800 " "	15 c. to 50	Kentucky Cents, fine,	1 75
1809 " "	1 50	1802 " "	1 00 to 3 00	Calcutta Silver Coins,	1 50
1811 " "	2 50	1803-'4 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ cts.,	2 c. to 10	La. Coins, from 75 c. to	2 00
1811 " very good,	3 00	18 5-'6	10 c. to 25	Pitt Medal, in Brass,	2 00
1811 " fair,	1 50	1807-'8	10 c. to 25	Pitt Medal, in Copper,	1 00
1811 " poor,	75	1811 " "	1 00 to 5 00	Early Austrian Crowns,	2 00
1846 " uncirculated,	2 75	1825-'29	2 c. to 10	South Wales Token,	2 50
1846 " very fine,	2 00	1831—	5 00 to 10 00	Vernon Medals,	50
1846 " very good,	1 25	1832-'33-'34,	2 c. to 10	Pitt Tokens, 1766	2 00
1846 " good,	1 00	1836—	5 00 to 10 00	Treason Coins, Canada,	50
1846 " fair,	75	1840, '41, '42, '44, '45, '46, '48, 5	00 to 8 00	Sicge Ps Silver,	2 50
1794 Half Dime, good,	6 50	1849 small date, good,	5 00	Coin Sale Cats., priced,	50
1794 " fair,	4 00	1845 small date, proof,	10 00	" " unpd.,	15
1794 " poor,	2 50	1843-'47, $\frac{1}{2}$ cts., proof,	12 00	American Newspapers, 1780,	50
1795 " fine,	3 00	1850, '51, '52, '53, '54, '55, 2 c. to	10	Rare Lincoln Medals,	1 00
1795 " good,	2 00	1856 $\frac{1}{2}$ cts., fine	25	1879 Half Dollars, proof,	1 75
1795 " fair,	1 00	1856 " uncirculated,	50	1879 Quarter Dollars, proof,	1 00
1796 " fair,	2 00	1857 " "	10	1879 Dimes, proof,	75
1797 " good,	3 50	1856 Nickel Cent, fair,	1 75	C. S. A. Half Dollars, 61 copies,	75
1800 " good,	2 50	1856 " good,	2 50	C. S. A. " Silver, "	5 00
1801 " good,	4 50	1856 " fine,	3 00	1786 Philadelphia Packet,	50
1801 " fair,	2 50	1856 " proof,	3 50	Four different, "	1 00
1803 " fair,	1 50	1856 " pat. ct.,	1 00	Foreign Coins, assorted, 3 c. to	5
1846 " uncirculated,	4 75	New Jersey Cents,	5 c. to 50	" " per hundred,	3 00
1846 " good,	2 75	Connecticut " "	5 c. to 50	Miscellaneous Medals,	25
1846 " fair,	1 75	Virginia " "	15 c. to 1 00	Society Medals,	35
1793 Cent, wreath, good,	3 50	Massachusetts Cents,	25 c. to 1 00	Newspapers prior to 1800,	50
1793 " fine,	10 00	New York " "	75 c. to 2 50	Almanacs, " "	50
1793 " poor,	1 00	Columbia " "	15 c. to 25	Pamphlets, " "	1 00
1793 " L. C. poor,	2 00	Wood, 1723, Cents,	5 c. to 20	Washington Letters,	15 00
1793 " chain, fair,	2 00	Vermont Cents,	25 c. to 75	Lincoln Letters,	10 00
1793 " "Ameri," fair,	3 50	Rosa Am. " "	75 c. to 3 50	1859-'69, proof sets,	6 50
1794 " fine,	1 00	Im. Col. " "	5 00 to 8 00	1870-'76, " "	6 00
1794 " good,	25	Washington, 1791, Cents,	2 00 to 6 00	1877 proof sets,	10 50
1794 " fair,	10	" 1792, " 20 00 to 100 00		1878 " "	9 00
1795-'6 " fair,	25 c. to 1 00	" 1793, " 2 50 to 3 50		1879 " "	5 00
1795-'6 " from	2 00 to 5 50	Jeff. Hd. Cents,	3 00 to 25 00	1875 20 Cent pieces, proof	75
1797-'8 " from	5 c. to 50	Voce Populi Cents,	75 c. to 1 50	1876 " " "	75
1799 " very poor,	2 00	Washington, 1783, Cents,	25 c. to 1 00	1877 " " "	5 50
1799 " poor,	3 00	English Tokens,	10 c. to 30	1878 " " "	5 00
1799 " fair,	4 50	Pres. Medals,	75 c. to 2 00	Colonial Paper Money,	10
1799 " good,	10 00	Continental Notes,	10 c. to 25	Rare " " 25 c. to	1 00
1799 " fine,	25 00	Colonial Notes,	10 c. to 75	\$500.00 Confederate Note,	50
1799 " very fine,	50 00	English War Medal,	Silver, 2 00	\$100.00 " "	15
1799 Cents over '98, half price.		" " with clasps, "	3 00	\$50.00 " "	10
1800 " from	5 c. to 50	Abssynian " "	3 00	\$20.00 " "	5
1801 " from	10 c. to 1 00	Russian " "	1 75	\$10.00 " "	5
1802 " from	5 c. to 50	Chinese " "	2 00	\$5.00 " "	5
1803 " from	2 c. to 25	India " "	2 00	\$2.00 " "	3
1804 " from	1 75 to 10 00	Turkish " "	1 50	\$1.00 " "	2
1804 Cent, uncirculated,	75 00	15 Cent G. & S. Notes, green,	5 00	Confederate Bonds,	50
1805 Cents,	15 c. to 2 00	" " red,	5 00	25 different C. S. Notes, small,	1 00
1806 " "	15 c. to 3 00	Small Arabic Silver Coins	25	100 local C. S. A. Notes,	5 00
1807 " "	3 c. to 25	Danish American Silver Coins,	15	1879 Silk Grant Badges,	25
1808 " "	15 c. to 4 00	Roman 1st Brass,	50 c. to 1 50	1879 " " "	15
1809 " "	75 c. to 20 00	" 2d "	20 c. to 50	1879 " " "	10
1810 " "	3 c. to 25	" 3d "	10 c. to 37	1879 Same, 5 00, 10 00, 15 00, per 100.	
1811 " "	15 c. to 5 00	Roman Silver Denarius,	75	1879 Grant Welcome Badges,	25
1812 " "	3 c. to 25	" " Tetre drachms,	3 50	1879 " " "	15
1813 " "	10 c. to 1 50	Eng. Eliz. shillings,	50	1879 " " "	10
1814 " "	2 c. to 25	Other early English coins,	75	100 different original Confederate	
1814 " very fine,	50	Early Irish coins,	75	bills in good condition,	5 00
1816-1820 inclusive, fine, each,	10	Very rare Irish coins,	2 00	1866 Half Dollar, no label,	1 25
1821-'23 good, each,	15	James H. pieces, fine,	25 c. to 1 00	Any piece in above list will be more	
1824-'57 good, each,	15	Ancient Medals,	2 00	accurately described on application from	
		Nelson Silver Medals, proof,	1 75	our patrons.	

MASON & CO.